

Rustic Ridge Annual Meeting, August 1, 2020

Road Committee Report

Any Road Committee report brings memories of our dear Alan Abel who taught us about trap rock ground, macadam, swales and culverts. We do miss him. This past year we focused on road maintenance and management of water runoff issues. This is the second year that we have worked with Seth Wiggin who took over Wiggin Hydroseed and we have developed a good working relationship.

Completed Projects 2019-2020, expenditures \$4,805

1. Pine Road regraded to redirect water away from the Sherburnes
2. All Ridge roads and culverts were surveyed with Seth Wiggin in June.
3. Ridge roads were swept mechanically and the overgrown swale at the corner of East Lane and Ledge Way was excavated.
4. Roadsides were trimmed and cleared for 3-6 feet throughout. Ed Shearer trimmed the Willows and West Lane. Seth Wiggin cleared other roadways with a mechanical brush cutter (Brush Hog), an intervention required every 2-3 years to maintain road visibility and safety.
5. West Lane root upheavals from a large pine were evaluated. At the board's request, we consulted an arborist Brad Bordewieck to address the safety and liability concerns that might result from cutting these roots. His opinion was that the road repair may jeopardize the health and safety of the tree. Based on this consultation and with Margie Conner and Leesa Campbell in agreement, the West Lane upheavals will be left in place for the time being.
6. Town roads (North Lane/Woodruff Way) are in disrepair. We have discussed the situation with Tom Walker of Northfield Highways and will continue to follow-up at regular intervals. Upper North Lane is the main priority.
7. Increased road usage and delivery truck access is a stress on our fragile road infrastructure. We encourage all homeowners to request small trucks for deliveries. Also please direct any deliveries to use the town roads rather than routing by GPS. There are some serious GPS errors for the Ridge that often take traffic preferentially along our steep, narrow private roads and difficult corners instead selecting Woodruff Way and North Lane. We contacted Mass Department of Transportation who referred us to Google Maps. We submitted corrections to Google Maps on line and have received notice that the corrections are under review.

Proposed Budget 2020-2021 \$5,200 (see page 3)

For the upcoming year we plan to repair the upper Willows and fill in a sink hole at the junction of the Willows and Winchester Road (\$2,500). We will also do routine cleaning and trimming (\$1,300), but do not anticipate that the brush hog will be required. We have included \$1,000 for unanticipated repairs, and \$400 for culverts.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucy and Phil Livingston

**Rustic Ridge 2019-2020
Road Committee Budget**

Road Repair

Pine Road regrade for water runoff \$1,200

General maintenance \$2,460

Mechanical sweeping,
Mechanical brush hog
Culverts

Trimming/Clearing* \$1,145

*separate budget item for 2019-20

Total \$4,805

**Rustic Ridge 2020-2021
Proposed Road Budget**

Repair

Upper and lower Willows \$2,500

Maintenance

Unanticipated repairs \$1,000

Road trimming** \$700

Road cleaning \$600

Other swales/culverts \$400

Total \$5,200

**trimming, previously separate category, combined into road budget for 2020-2021